

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

**APPLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT**

I, Bryce K Dahlin, United States Postal Inspector, do hereby swear and affirm the following facts as being true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief:

1. I am a United States Postal Inspector, assigned to investigate the unlawful transportation of contraband, including Title 21 controlled substances, through the United States Mail. I have been a Postal Inspector since April 2013. As part of my duties, I investigate incidents where the United States mail system is used for the purpose of transporting non-mailable matter, including controlled substances such as marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 843(b), and substances mailed in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1716.
2. Based on my experience, training and discussions with other law enforcement officers experienced in drug investigations, I know that certain indicators exist when persons use the United States Mails to ship controlled substances from one location to another. Indicators for parcels that contain controlled substances include, but are not limited to the following:
  - a. It is a common practice for the shippers of the controlled substances to use Express or Priority Mail because the drugs arrive faster and within one to five days, but this may vary in Alaska due

to geographical location and weather. It is also a common practice for the shipper to add Delivery Confirmation, so the parcel can be tracked.

- b. These parcels in many instances contain a fictitious return address, incomplete return address, no return address, the return address is same as the addressee address, or the return address does not match the place where the parcel was mailed from. These packages are also sometimes addressed to or from a commercial mail receiving agency (i.e., UPS Store). These address practices are used by narcotics traffickers to hide the true identity of the person(s) shipping and/or receiving the controlled substances from law enforcement officials.
- c. In order to conceal the distinctive smell of controlled substances from narcotic detector dogs, these packages tend to be wrapped excessively in bubble-pack and wrapping plastic, and are sometimes sealed with the use of tape around all the seams. Also, the parcels often contain other parcels which are carefully sealed to prevent the escape of odors. Sometimes perfumes, coffee, dryer sheets, tobacco or other smelling substances are used to mask the odor of the controlled substances being shipped.
- d. When the shipper mails controlled substances from a particular area/state, the proceeds from the sale of these controlled substances may be returned to the shipper. Based on experience and

discussions, there are known source states, where controlled substances are mailed from, including California, Florida, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Texas.

e. I know from training and discussions with other law enforcement officers that the following controlled substances are likely to be found during parcel interdictions: marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, psilocybin mushrooms, heroin, opium, and MDMA.

3. In this warrant application, I seek this Court's authority to search this Priority Mail parcel bearing USPS Tracking Number 9505510971603166397371, which is described in greater detail below, for controlled substances in violation of Title 21 U.S.C. Sections 841(a)(1) and 843(b) and Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1716.

**RELEVANT FACTS PERTAINING TO EXPRESS MAIL PARCEL EI 768700331**

**US**

4. On June 18, 2013, the Priority Parcel 9505510971603166397371 that is the subject of this search warrant affidavit, hereinafter referred to as the subject parcel, was identified by postal inspectors during a postal interdiction in conjunction with a postal sort at the Sitka Post Office 1207 SMC, Sitka, WA 99835. The subject parcel is addressed to "R. Anderson, 215 Smith St, Sitka, AK 99835" from "Bean, 1154 Camps Canyon rd, Troy, ID 83871." A photocopy of the label of the subject parcel is attached as **Exhibit 1**. The subject parcel weighs approximately 5.6lbs and is described as a U.S. Priority Mail Box, measuring approximately 12

x 12 x 5.5 inches, bearing handwritten sender and addressee information.

The subject parcel is affixed with a Postage Validation Imprinter sticker in the amount of \$16.85, and was mailed on June 15, 2013 from 83501.

5. This parcel was identified due to characteristics drug traffickers use to prevent the detection of drugs being shipped through the mail. For this parcel, these characteristics included, but are not limited to:
  - a. Zip code did not match up with mailing address.
  - b. All seams of package are taped.
  - c. Law enforcement database Accurint showed current resident of '1154 Camps Canyon Rd.' as Nancy Bardsley and Julie Lynn Forsythe. Database also showed Julie Forsythe has used the name Julie "Bean" as well as several other names. The sender used the name "Bean" on the shipping label. The addressee, "R. Anderson" does not associate with "215 Smith St." "215 Smith St." is related to a business complex with several units. The data provided by Accurint is a combination of over 33 billion records from over 8,800 different data sources which are updated daily, weekly, monthly, and annually, depending on the particular data source.
  - d. The parcel was mailed in Lewiston Idaho, 43 miles from senders address in Troy Idaho.
6. On June 18, 2013 the parcel was presented before a narcotics dog and the dog sniff resulted in a positive hit on the package. A copy of the dog sniff result and related details are attached in **Exhibit 2**.

7. The subject parcel is currently in the custody of Postal Inspector Bryce Dahlin at the Sitka Post Office, 1207 SMC, Sitka, AK 99835, and is in its original sealed and intact condition.
8. Based on my training and experience as a Postal Inspector and the aforementioned factors, your affiant believes there is probable cause to believe that the subject package contains controlled substances, and/or other evidence of violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 843(b), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 1716

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryce K. Dahlin  
Postal Inspector

Subscribed and sworn to  
before me, this 19 day  
June 2013.

**Signature Redacted**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
Leslie Longenbaugh

## ATTACHMENT A

Priority Mail parcel with USPS Tracking Number 9505510971603166397371, bearing meter strip number 00097160-12 for the amount of \$16.85, addressed to "R Anderson, 215 Smith St. Sitka, AK 99835" from "Bean, 1154 Camps Canyon rd, Troy, ID 83871." (SUBJECT PARCEL) currently located in a locked container at the Sitka Post Office, 1207 SMC, Sitka, AK 99835.

## ATTACHMENT B

### PROPERTY TO BE SEIZED

- a. Any Controlled substances
- b. Likely proceeds of narcotics trafficking, such as U.S. Currency and other negotiable instruments; and
- c. Documents and other items, in any form, tending to identify co-conspirators, including but not limited to letters, notes, memoranda, address and phone books, lists of names, buy/owe sheets, and photographs; and
- d. Documents and other items tending to establish or hide the whereabouts of proceeds from narcotics trafficking, such as keys, financial records and ledgers, and
- e. Documents and other items tending to show the identity of the sender or receiver, including but not limited to bills or other business-related documents, shipping material and receipts indicia of shipments or mailings, photographs and film; and
- f. Records of drug transactions and evidence of distribution of controlled substances, including but not limited to accounts payable and receivable, buy/owe sheets, contracts, letters and memoranda, receipts, telephone records and bills, papers and documents containing lists of names, addresses and other personal property tending to establish the distribution of controlled substances;
- g. Documents showing storage areas of controlled substances



AST CASE NO. AK13042535

SEARCH WARRANT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ATTACHMENT IN SUPPORT OF AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT  
**PERFORMANCE RECORD OF SCENT DETECTION CANINE  
TEAM INV. DUR'AN & K-9 "JUSTICE"**

The facts tending to establish the forgoing grounds for issuance of a search warrant are as follows:

1. The affiant is K-9 handler and Investigator Larry L. Dur'an II, who has been an Alaska State Trooper since February 24, 2008. In addition to completing 217 hours of training related to the interdiction of controlled substances, the affiant has completed a 2-week, 80-hour Drug Detection Canine Academy through the Alaska State Troopers K-9 Unit. The affiant and K-9 Justice have been certified as a scent detection team since May 2, 2013.
2. K-9 Justice completed a 2-week, 80-hour Drug Detection Canine Academy through the Alaska State Troopers K-9 Unit and was certified in the detection of the following controlled substances: Cocaine, Heroin, Methamphetamine, Marijuana, and the derivatives thereof on May 2, 2013. K-9 Justice had two prior state certified K-9 handlers and successfully completed two prior Drug Detection Canine Academies through the Alaska State Troopers K-9 Unit.
3. From May 2, 2013 to present, K-9 Justice has been commanded to sniff for the presence of the odor of the previously mentioned controlled substances approximately 35 times during scent detection training and has indicated on 35 of the training substances. K-9 Justice performs blank training searches where no controlled substances are present and also trains in a variety of environments and conditions including, but not limited to, luggage, vehicles, packages, currency, residences, and commercial buildings as part of his maintenance training.
4. Since K-9 Justice's last certification, K-9 Justice has been commanded to sniff for the presence of the odor of the above mentioned controlled substances 56 times during actual controlled substance investigations and has indicated 35 times during those investigations. Subsequent searches and/or interviews have corroborated K-9 Justice's indication to the presence of the odor of controlled substances on 33 of those indications. There has been 02 occasions where K-9 Justice indicated and the reason for the indication remains unexplained.
5. Currently there are 01 of the K-9 indications that are unexplained due to pending search warrants.
6. On June 18 2013, at approximately 1911 hours, K-9 Justice indicated to the presence of the odor of one or more of the above controlled substances coming from A USPS Parcel being mailed to "R. Anderson, 215 Smith St, Sitka, AK 99835" and being mailed from "Bean, 1154 Camps Canyon Rd, Troy, ID 83871."

Title - Inv. Larry L. Dur'an II

Signature 